### SCIENTIFIC FOR HEALTH



### Telemedicine and IT-based tumour boards

Dr Ntokozo Ndlovu – Radiation Oncologist University of Zimbabwe

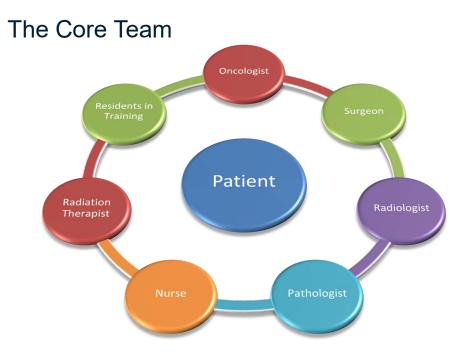


UNIVERSITY OF ZIMBABWE



## Multidisciplinary Tumor Board

- A tumor board is a multidisciplinary team of doctors with different specialties that meets regularly to discuss cancer cases and share knowledge.
- The board's goal is to determine the best possible cancer treatment for a patient.
- Noncore team members such as geneticists, psychologists, Nuclear medicine and palliative care physicians and medical students can be added as required.



# Advantage

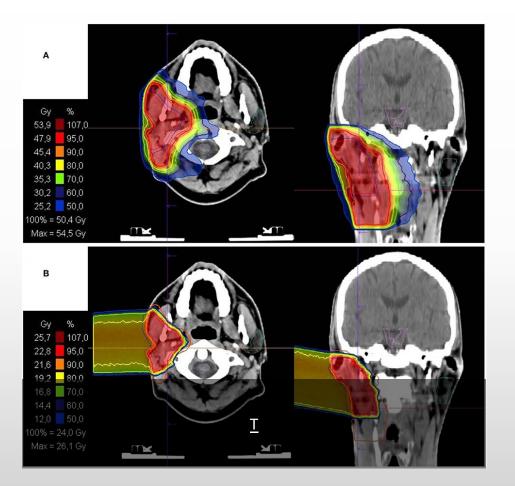
 Having multiple perspectives from other doctors around a clinical case increases the chances of designing a successful therapeutic plan.



# Virtual Tumor Boards

- Virtualization allows for the creation of a network between different centers far from each other.
- Virtualization of multidisciplinary tumor boards has significant advantages such as reducing time spent traveling for both patients and health professionals and improving participant adherence.
- Virtualization may also improve patient management in settings where funding and resources may be limited.





Sharing of Patient information and images done with care to keep the identity of the patient veiled

## SCIENTIFIC FOR HEALTH

## AFRONET – An example

- A telemedicine network for radiation oncology consultation in Africa
- Celebration of 10-year anniversary in June 2020
- 110 sessions to date with over 207 cases from 13 countries discussed so far.
- Participation from 17 African and 23 non- African countries
- Includes lectures on topics essential to RT in Africa
- ASPRONET in Asia Pacific was birthed from AFRONET and it is now a well-established network with educational sessions for RTTs and MPs as well.





#### JOURNAL OF THE INTERNATIONAL SOCIETY FOR TELEMEDICINE AND EHEALTH

### AFRICA RADIATION ONCOLOGY NETWORK (AFRONET): AN IAEA TELEMEDICINE PILOT PROJECT

## Eduardo Rosenblatt MD<sup>1</sup>, Rajiv R Prasad MD DNB<sup>1</sup>, Kirsten Hopkins MD FRCP FRCR<sup>1</sup>, Alfredo Polo MD PhD<sup>1</sup>, Ntokozo Ndlovu MD MMed Rad & Onc<sup>2</sup>, Mohamed Zaghloul MD<sup>3</sup>, Gerald Paris MD MBChB FC Rad Onc (SA)<sup>4</sup>, Lotfi Kochbati MD<sup>5</sup>

<sup>1</sup> International Atomic Energy Agency. Division of Human Health, Vienna, Austria

<sup>2</sup> Parirenyatwa Hospital, Harare, Zimbabwe

<sup>3</sup> Children's Cancer Hospital, Cairo University, Cairo, Egypt

<sup>4</sup> Tygerberg Hospital, Stellenbosch University, South Africa

<sup>5</sup> A Mami Hospital, Faculty of Medicine, El Manar University, Tunis, Tunisia

#### Abstract

#### In developing countries, many centres work in relative isolation with limited access to up-to-date published literature, international meetings, and expert opinion. Methods: The International Atomic Energy Agency established the AFrica Radiation

#### Introduction

In Africa and in particular in sub-Saharan Africa, cancer remains a problem and few initiatives and commitments exist, whether in biomedical research, prevention, information or treatment.<sup>1,2</sup> Data from the World Health



### THANK YOU



Consultants' Meeting on Telemedicine Applications in Radiation Oncology (Web-based educational networks).